



**The WNY Young Writers' Studio**  
**Summer 2014**  
**Middle and High School Fellowship Program**

**The Framework for Each Session:**

**Welcome:** Connect with friends, browse the library, play a board game, tackle a writing catalyst, grab a snack, ask for feedback, or if needed, make copies of your work for peer review. We will have our morning meeting once everyone has arrived, but no later than 9:15 am.

**Morning Meeting:** The group will come together to review daily announcements, invitations, tips, and quick, helpful strategies.

**Investigation:** During this time, you will research and study the craft and process of writing beside other fellows if you choose. I will guide this work, and the topics are available on the next page in order to help you plan. This is an invitation, not a requirement. If you would rather be writing, then by all means: write!

**Independent Writing and Conferring:** I will check in with you daily to get a sense of your needs and offer support. You will also learn how to identify the expertise of those in the room so that you may strategically confer with others as you wish.

**Peer Review:** Choose an idea, a dilemma, a curiosity, or a portion of your draft to share with a small group of others. Each day, you will learn something different about the peer review process, and by week's end, you will leave confident in your ability to ask for and provide quality feedback and coaching to others.

**Sharing Expertise:** At the end of each session, writers are invited to share their greatest discoveries and strategies. At times, Angela will ask permission to spotlight the process and strategies that a specific writer displays during a session, so that others may benefit. It's important that you are noticing what others writers do and how they do it as well. Recognize the brilliance of every fellow in the room. What can we learn from one another? Plan to share.

*Know that as you are writing this week, I will be as well. You will notice me taking pictures, scribbling notes, and jotting out reflections. While I am teaching you a great deal about writing this week, you are teaching me much more. I'll be paying attention and sharing what I learned from you on Thursday.*

Session	<b>Investigations</b> <i>Writers are invited but not required to participate in our group investigations, which are offered daily. Many find these opportunities to study the works of other writers and the strategies they employ rewarding, while others wish to work uninterrupted. The choice is theirs.</i>	<b>Writers Will Learn and Create</b> <i>We find that some writers prefer directed writing tasks while others thrive on choice. As a result, each session provides opportunities for common, direct instruction relevant to the development of a specific genre. These activities are summarized below. Alternatively, writers may always choose their own genres and pursue their own works.</i>	<b>Preparing for the Day</b>
Monday	<p>Today, writers will become acquainted with the resources available to them within our space, and they will learn how other writers have used some of them in unexpected and very powerful ways. We will distinguish the production of writing from the process of becoming a writer and seek wisdom from the works of well-respected authors.</p>	<p><b>Writers will learn:</b></p> <p>The framework of our daily sessions and how to make the most of each opportunity, whether they are new to our community or a veteran fellow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigations</li> <li>• Independent writing time and conferring</li> <li>• Peer review</li> <li>• Shared expertise sessions</li> </ul> <p>Strategies for designing, maintaining, and stretching the potential of their writer's notebook and their works in progress folder or digital archive</p> <p>Open Office and Google Tools: Some Basics</p> <p>Unexpected uses for Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest</p> <p><b>Writers Will Create:</b></p> <p>A notebook</p> <p>A collection of potential writing topics by focusing on turning points and sketching out empathy maps</p> <p>The beginnings of a draft</p>	<p>Don't forget your parent Consent Form</p> <p>If you have your own laptop, iPad, or other writing tools that you prefer to use, you may bring them (optional)</p> <p>Any writing currently in process (optional)</p> <p>Bottled water and a healthy snack will be provided. If you would like to bring anything else to eat or drink, please do. <b>Please keep in mind that we are a nut-free facility.</b></p>

Tuesday	<p>Writers will consider how they might use their experiences and their words to be of influence to real audiences. They will consider the issues that are most important to them and to those that they know and learn strategies for creating characters who struggle with these issues.</p>	<p><b>Writers Will Learn:</b></p> <p>Varied strategies for goal setting, self-assessment, and reflection: considering mind-set and dispositions</p> <p>Quality feedback is criteria-specific and carefully planned</p> <p>How to identify and leverage the expertise of the writers in the room</p> <p>The importance of extending their writing circle beyond our community and how to connect with others online and through other local experiences</p> <p><b>Writers Will Create:</b></p> <p>Additional potential writing topics by focusing on first and last moments and rites of passage</p> <p>The continuation of a draft</p> <p>Goals, based on self-assessment and reflection</p>	<p><b>Please Remember to Bring These Items Daily:</b></p> <p>Drafts in progress</p> <p>Your writer's notebook and folder</p> <p>Any mentor texts from home that you'd like to explore</p> <p>Any devices that support your work</p>
Wednesday	<p>Today, we will study the works of our favorite others with an eye on character development. How do talented writers create believable characters? How can we use their published works as mentor texts? What happens when we begin to see our world through our main character's eyes?</p>	<p><b>Writers Will Learn:</b></p> <p>Scene development</p> <p>Pushing "pause" on peer review in order to improve our practice</p> <p><b>Writers Will Create:</b></p> <p>The continuation of a draft</p> <p>A handful of write-likes which may or may not be added to their drafts</p>	<p><b>Optional Wednesday night homework for Thursday's session:</b></p> <p>Seeing the world through your character's eyes—bring your snapshots</p>

<b>Thursday</b>	Writers will investigate character motivation and the creation of obstacles and turning points. What do our characters want? What keeps them from getting what they want? How do writers execute compelling scenes that reveal this tension?	<b>Writers Will Learn:</b>  Interactive writing  How to tinker with their writing using boards, grids, and an abundance of other tools  <b>Writers Will Create:</b>  The continuation of a draft	<b>Optional Thursday night homework for Friday's session:</b>  Notebook reflection: When did you feel most comfortable as a learner this week? Least comfortable? Most productive? Least productive? How did you grow as a writer this week?
<b>Friday</b>	Today's investigation, led by Mrs. Lisa Azzarelli-Brown, will help writers craft a variety of satisfying endings for their stories and a process for choosing the best one.	<b>Writers Will Learn:</b>  All about publication opportunities  <b>Writers Will Create:</b>  Varied endings, in order to choose one  Draft continuation or completion  A plan to pursue publication (optional)	Interested in continuing your work with us this fall but uncertain how to register? Please email Angela at any time to complete the process: stockmanangela@gmail.com